

A Message to the People and Islamic
Scholars of Pakistan
On the Tragic Incident of the Martyrdom of
Maulana Naseeb Khan and Maulana Aslam
Shaykhupuri

(May Allah have mercy on them)

From

Ustadh Ahmad Farooq

(May Allah protect him)

All praise belongs to Allah and may peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Leader of the Prophets, the Chosen One, Muhammad, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family and Companions.

My dear Pakistani brothers,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

The beloved Prophet of Allah (peace be upon him) said:

“The one who does not respect our elder, does not show mercy to our young and does not recognize the right of our scholar is not one of us.”¹

Today once again the ruling class imposed on the people of Pakistan has proved that this class is “not one of us”. It does not have anything in common with the Ummah or its religion. This foreign system has martyred another two shining stars of the blessed group of scholars whose eminence has been described by Allah the Glorious in His Book; scholars whose guidance we must follow as an obligation decreed by the Merciful Lord, and whose rights we must recognize as a binding duty laid down by our beloved Prophet, may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him.

First, the fearless teacher of *Hadith*, Maulana Naseeb Khan, who belonged to North Waziristan and was performing the noble duty of teaching *hadith* at Akora Khattak was kidnapped from outside his seminary. His body, bearing clear signs of torture, was later dumped along a roadside. After this incident the famous religious scholar and interpreter of the Quran, Maulana Aslam Sheikhpuri, was shot dead while he was travelling in Karachi. May Allah accept the martyrdom of both these eminent scholars. We pray to Allah that He raises their status and grants the best form of acceptance to the ink of their pens and the blood of their bodies. May Allah grant the Muslim Ummah an excellent recompense of these two treasures of knowledge and action. Ameen!

My beloved and most respected Pakistani brothers,

¹(*Saheeh wa Dhaeef al Jami al Sagheer wa Ziyadatihi*)

The only crime of these scholars was that they felt the burden of the Prophetic inheritance on their shoulders, they recognized the criticalness of their position and therefore they said what they felt was true without fearing any blame. Neither one of them was prone to changing their decrees for the sake of worldly interests or affinity with the corridors of power and foreign embassies. They used to support the humble mujahid slaves of their Lord openly as well as in secret.

I recall that only recently when some of our mujahid brothers visited Maulana Aslam Sheikhupuri with a letter of this humble servant of God, he expressed great kindness and love. Despite shortage of time he wrote a brief reply. After being appraised of the details of the Mujahideen's stance, he criticized the negative role of the media which has distorted the true picture of jihad in front of not only the masses but also the intelligentsia. May Allah the Glorious raise his status and be pleased with him!

As far as *Shaykhul Hadeeth* Maulana Naseeb Khan (may Allah's mercy be upon him) was concerned, his brave and forthright character brought to life in this day and age the memories of the scholars amongst the righteous predecessors. Many mujahideen engaged in jihad in Afghanistan and the tribal areas are his former students. The Mujahideen had a special place in their hearts for him because of his love for the mujahideen and his open support of the jihadi movement in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Maulana Naseeb Khan used to openly criticize the western system in Pakistan. He aroused in the hearts of his students a longing for the implementation of the Shariah and zeal for jihad and fighting. May Allah be pleased with him. May Allah grant the relatives of the deceased great reward and patience. We pray to Allah that He provides the Mujahideen an excellent recompense for the martyred scholar. Ameen!

My respected scholars and honorable teachers,

The subcontinent is an Islamic land with a rich history. This region has given birth to unique personalities in the field of *tafseer*², *hadith*³, *fiqh*⁴ and other Islamic sciences; people whose writings have spread the light of knowledge in the entire Muslim world. For centuries the flag of Islam fluttered over this region. The scholars occupied the

² Quranic exegesis

³ Traditions related to the Prophet (peace be upon him) narrating his sayings and deeds.

⁴ Islamic law

posts of judge and jurist and were respected in society. Even the kings of Delhi were bound by the decrees of the scholars and the supremacy of the Quran and Sunnah remained intact overall. Thereafter European infidels gradually started strengthening their footholds in this land. They took opportunity of our internal weaknesses, luxurious lifestyles and lax attitude in following the Shariah. Thus they wove a net of conspiracies and made firm their grip on the great empire of Islamic India.

To stop this decline in practice and scholarship, the family of Shah Waliullah Muhadith Dehlvi (may Allah have mercy on him) started offering resistance practically as well as in the field of Islamic learning. His son Shah Abdul Aziz Muhadith Dehlvi (may Allah have mercy on him) declared India an abode of warfare because the supremacy of the Shariah had come to an end in most parts of India. He declared Jihad as being obligatory for the sake of implementation of Shariah. Thus he laid the doctrinal foundations of the blessed jihadi movement of Sayyid Ahmad Shaheed and Shah Ismail Shaheed (may Allah's mercy be upon them). This movement which started around 1825 continued in one form or the other till the creation of Pakistan. At the time of Pakistan's creation, the Mujahideen who wanted to see the supremacy of Islam and restoration of the leadership of the Ulema were engaged in this struggle not only in the plains and hills of Waziristan but all the tribal areas.

On the other hand, Muslim rule over most parts of the subcontinent had formally come to an end after the jihad of 1857. The British turned the defeat of 1857 into victory with the help of the most lowly, hollow, unconscionable and unashamed classes of the subcontinent and thus breathed new life into the dying British rule. This was the historic crossroads when the reins of power were snatched from the hands of the scholars of the subcontinent and respected people in society and handed over to the toadies of the British; a self-interested and shameless class that had strong enmity with Islam; a class in whose blood ran the love of wealth and hatred for the people of faith.

Respected scholars and honorable teachers,

It has been two centuries since Shah Abdul Aziz issued his historic decree. Today, the same decree is most emphatically inviting us to action. The Shariah has not been enforced to this day. Even today the English and their toadies are ruling this land and

their laws continue to prevail. It is almost a hundred and fifty years since the historic crossroads of 1857, but the reins of power that were snatched from the hands of the scholars of subcontinent and the respected and noble people of this region still remain in the hands of the agents of the British and the generation nurtured by Aligarh.

The martyrdom of Maulana Aslam Sheikhupuri and Maulana Naseeb Khan is the result of the same hatred and scorn that has been handed down generation after generation in the hearts of the Generals, political families, and bureaucrats who run this system. The wretched hands that run this system are the remains of the filthy class whose impure hands hanged the corpses of thousands of scholars in the streets and crossings of Delhi after crushing the freedom movement of 1857. The treacherous cabal which runs this system fully knows that the noble scholars are the true leadership of this society and if they ever get a chance to even slightly raise their heads, the mere existence of this western system will be in peril. This is why we see that in the recent years nowhere in any Muslim region have as many scholars been martyred as in Pakistan.

This western system that hinders the dominance of Islam in this country is responsible for the horrendous killings of Maulana Yusuf Ludhianvi, Maulana Abdullah Ghazi, Mufti Nizam ud Deen Shamzai, Mufti Jameel ur Rehman, Maulana Azam Tariq, Maulana Abdul Rasheed Ghazi, Maulana Maqsood Ahmad, Maulana Waliullah Kabulgrami, Maulana Muhammad Alam, Maulana Ameen Orakzai, Maulana Ali Sher Haideri, Maulana Muhammad Aarif, Maulana Mairauj ud Din Mehsud, Mufti Saeed Ahmad Jalalpuri and dozens of other scholars.

My beloved Pakistani brothers,

For God's sake, just pause and reflect for a moment: who are these people whose blood has become so cheap? The blood of those who have been declared as the inheritors of the Prophets by our beloved Prophet (peace be upon him), whose virtues have been extolled by Allah the Glorious in His pure Book, those whose presence is the guarantee of the security of this religion and whose departure shall mean the departure of the religion...the blood of these great personalities and the true leaders of this Ummah has become so cheap that a brief statement of condemnation in a corner of a newspaper or half a protest rally is considered sufficient? By Allah, this is manifest injustice with these people of stature! The matter is much more serious and grave! It is

time to wake up from this slumber! If the corpses of the scholars of the *Ahl as Sunnah* (followers of the Prophetic tradition) are being found on streets and crossings no time is left to sit and ponder. Today the time has come to step forward and take some serious measures.

The time has come for us to appreciate this reality that until this unislamic system is imposed in this country, scholars and religious seminaries can never be safe. Until the American embassy rules this country and the reins of power remain in the hands of pro-America rulers and generals the religious seminaries will never get the freedom to say the word of truth. Today the battle that is being waged by the Mujahideen of Islam against this corrupt system aims at demolishing this western system and bringing an end to American hegemony in the region. The battle that started in 1825 continues to this day. The Mujahideen are still fighting in their bunkers for the restoration of the authority that was snatched in 1857 from the hands of the people of Islam. They are offering their blood every single day for the defense of their beloved scholars and teachers, the restoration of their leadership and the rule and ascendancy of the Shariah. Today this battle has transcended its local perspective and has become linked with the Jihadi Movement of Afghanistan. It is the primary objective of this movement that the flag of the Islamic Emirate is raised from Kabul to Bengal. This regional movement has also become linked with the global jihad and has become part and parcel of the Jihadi revival whose foundations were laid by the martyrs Shaykh Abdullah Azzam and Shaykh Osama bin Laden, may Allah have mercy on them.

What is needed is that the scholars recognize the critical nature of this situation and throw their weight behind this movement. Today scholars and religious seminaries are the target of global conspiracies. The west cannot tolerate the influence and spread of religious seminaries in Pakistan. The American think tank Rand Corporation in its famous report “Civil Democratic Islam” advised the American government that to promote the American version of Islam and uproot the true Islam it is necessary to:

“...help break the fundamentalist and traditionalist monopoly on defining, explaining and interpreting Islam.”⁵

⁵ Rand Corporation, Civil Democratic Islam: Partners, Resources and Strategies, pg 48.

Today exactly the same method is being adopted to break the grip of righteous scholars on Muslim societies. While on the one hand deviant ideologies of people who have sold out their faith, such as Ghamidi, are being promoted, on the other the influence and authority of the scholars is being brought to an end by the use of force. Therefore, it is an obligation of the scholars to be aware of this danger, unveil these conspiracies, aid their mujahid sons with their decrees and statements, raise the banner of the enforcement of Shariah and revival of the Caliphate, make manifest the deception of this western system, and offer their contributions in paving the way for the ascendancy of Islam in this region. It is also an obligation of the students of religious seminaries to consider it their duty to act upon the knowledge they seek. They must dedicate their lives to bringing to life in the real world the books of Jihad and Muslim International Law, the chapters of Revolt and Apostacy, and the subjects of Government and Politics which they have studied under their teachers.

My beloved scholars and respected teachers,

In the end I would like to convey these heartfelt feelings that by Allah, every grief of yours is our grief. The news of the martyrdom of a scholar is harder for us to bear than the news of the martyrdom of our own brothers. I swear by the Glorious Lord that we love you for the sake of Allah. The heart sheds tears of blood and the spirit breaks down in agony upon seeing our teachers and Imams being martyred in such a manner. Had we not been occupied by the binding obligation of jihad nothing would have been dearer to us than sitting in your discipleship and collecting the pearls of knowledge from your gatherings.

You are the solace of our hearts, the crown of our heads and the tranquility of our eyes. Receiving the blessings of a single night of your prayers is better than the world and everything therein. One saying of yours in our support, one sentence of encouragement fills our hearts with firmness and peace. Inshallah you will not find anyone more loyal and loving than us... Kindly take us in your benevolent care! Correct our mistakes! Give us courage if we falter! After the support of Allah the Glorious you are our biggest support! May Allah be pleased with you! May Allah protect you from the sinister schemes of every malicious and corrupt one! May Allah keep us under your shade! Ameen!

May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon His Messenger, his family and Companions.

